

TOMB RAIDER™

SACRED ARTIFACTS



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I NEED
YOU TO **VERY**
QUIETLY TELL CARTER
TO CONTACT THE
AUTHORITIES.

AND
HAVE HIM
HURRY.



IT'S NOT
WORKING.

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
IT?



ANNA,
WHAT THE
HELL--

IT'S **GIANNA**,
ACTUALLY. GIANNA
BARTOLI...I'D OFFER
TO SHAKE, BUT MY
HANDS ARE A
LITTLE FULL.



BESIDES, WE'RE
ALREADY WELL
ACQUAINTED...

"...CONSIDERING
IT WAS YOU WHO
**KILLED MY
FATHER!**"

EDITOR'S
NOTE: AS SEEN IN
TOMB RAIDER II.

"YOU DIDN'T
JUST TAKE **HIM**
FROM ME."

"YOU TOOK
EVERYTHING
FROM ME."



DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOUR FATHER WAS PLANNING TO DO? HOW MANY PEOPLE WOULD HAVE DIED BECAUSE OF HIM? I *HAD* TO--

HAD TO *WHAT?! KILL BOTH OF US?* I DIED, TOO, LARA! MY GOALS, MY FREEDOM, YOU BROKE ME TO SAVE HYPOTHETICAL PEOPLE WHO, MAY I REMIND YOU, ARE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND NOW THAT YOU ARE THE ONE WHO NEEDS SAVING.

WHAT A BRAVE LITTLE MARTYR YOU ARE.



SHUT UP, YOU *SELF-RIGHTEOUS BITCH!*



I KNOW THE SACRIFICES WE MAKE FOR FAMILY LEGACY. I ALSO KNOW THAT WE HAVE A CHOICE ABOUT WHAT WE WANT *OURS* TO BE.



WHAT A DELIGHTFUL CHOICE OF WORDS, LARA. YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF *SACRIFICE* YOU'RE ABOUT TO MAKE.



BLAM





WHEN ARE YOU PLANNING ON KILLING ME, THEN?

OR HAVING ME KILLED, SINCE I DOUBT YOU COULD DO IT ON YOUR OWN.

BLAM

CRACK



HAVE YOU DONE A *CABRIOLE* ON POINTE WITH TWO BROKEN TOES BLEEDING THROUGH YOUR SHOES, OR PERFORMED SO MANY *FOUETTÉS* IN A ROW THAT YOU LOSE YOUR BALANCE, CRACK YOUR HEAD ON A MIRROR, AND CONTINUE DANCING WITH A CONCUSSION?

NO.

THEN DON'T PRESUME TO KNOW WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF. YOU THOUGHT MY FATHER WAS A THREAT? YOU'VE **NO IDEA** WHAT HE RAISED ME TO DO.



RESURRECT WHAT WAS LEFT OF HIS PATHETIC CULT, I ASSUME. HOW LONG DID IT TAKE THEM TO DISBAND AFTER THEY SAW THE DAGGER OF XIAN'S POWER WASTED BY THE VERY PERSON WHO LED THEM?

DID YOU HAVE TO PROMISE THEM AN OLDER, NASTIER ARTIFACT THEY COULD USE TO TERRORIZE THE WORLD? ONE YOU HAD STOLEN FROM MY HOME?



AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO ALLOW A "SACRIFICE THAT WOULD GRANT TRANSFORMATION INTO A GODLIKE WARRIOR--A FIERCE, VICIOUS FIGHTER WHO COULD ONLY BE STOPPED BY THE BREAKING OF THE DAGGER."

WHICH I AM **CERTAINLY** GOING TO DO--



NOT IF YOU'RE UNCONSCIOUS.

CRACK



"AND USED THEM TO FORGE A WEAPON NO OTHER COULD DEFEAT."

"ON THE SHORES OF THE BLACK SEA, SCYTHIAN WARRIORS RULED ON HORSEBACK."

"BUT AS THEY FEARED, ONE DAY A MIGHTIER BLADE STRUCK THEM DOWN."

"THEY CONQUERED LAND WITH THE EASE OF BREATHING, ENEMIES FALLING TO THEIR ARROWS, SPEARS, AND SWORDS."

"TO COMPLETE THE TRANSFORMATION, THE SACRIFICE WILL FEAST ON THE BLOOD OF A PRIZED ENEMY, REFINED BY FIRES OF ANIMOSITY."

"YOU CANNOT REPLACE THE LIFE YOU'VE TAKEN FROM ME, LARA, BUT YOU CAN STILL HELP ME FULFILL THE DESTINY OF MY FAMILY."

"THE FIAMMA NERA WILL ASCEND, AND IT WILL ALL BE THANKS TO YOU."

"YOU HAVE CONSUMED THE STRENGTH OF OTHERS, TAKING WHAT DID NOT BELONG TO YOU, RAIDING WHAT WAS NEVER YOURS..."

"I AM PREPARED TO MAKE A SIMILAR OFFER, BUT AS A PENITENT AND WILLING VESSEL, HONORED TO ACCEPT THE POWER GAINED BY SACRIFICE INSTEAD OF SELFISHNESS."

"DON'T WE?"

"BUT DON'T FRET, LARA. WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU IN THIS GRAND DESIGN."

"YOU'VE GOT A FRONT-ROW SEAT, WHENEVER YOU DECIDE TO WAKE UP AND WATCH."



MY FATHER'S
FINAL ACT WAS
SACRED.

HE BELIEVED IN
THE TEACHINGS OF THE
DAGGER OF XIAN AND BECAME A
DEVOTED STUDENT. HE ALLOWED
YOU ALL, HIS BELOVED FIAMMA
NERA, TO TAKE PART IN HIS QUEST
TO MASTER THE DAGGER, CERTAIN
HE WAS WORTHY TO LEVERAGE
ITS TRANSFORMATIVE
POWERS...

...BUT HE
WAS MURDERED
BEFORE THE WORLD
COULD TREMBLE AT
HIS GLORIOUS
SUCCESS.

HIS MURDERER IS
HERE TONIGHT--
LARA CROFT.

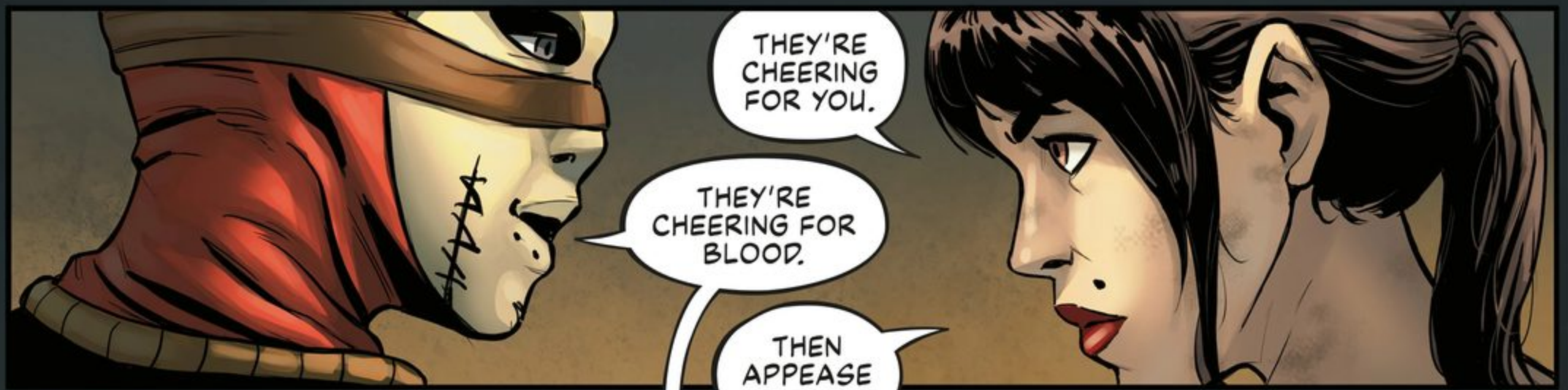
BOO

SHE SERVES A
PURPOSE, I PROMISE. NO
ONE KNOWS HOW HORRIBLE
IT'S BEEN FOR YOU ALL THESE
PAST YEARS, LONGING FOR
JUSTICE, MISSING
YOUR LEADER.

NO ONE
EXCEPT
ME.

AND I AM
READY FOR
CLOSURE.

SO LET'S
GET THIS THING
GOING, SHALL
WE?



THEY'RE
CHEERING
FOR YOU.

THEY'RE
CHEERING FOR
BLOOD.

THEN
APPEASE
THEM.

APPEASEMENT
IS OUTSIDE MY
NATURE.

MY FORM
IS A CIPHER FOR
YOUR WORD. MY
MASK CONCEALS
THAT WHICH IS
YOURS.



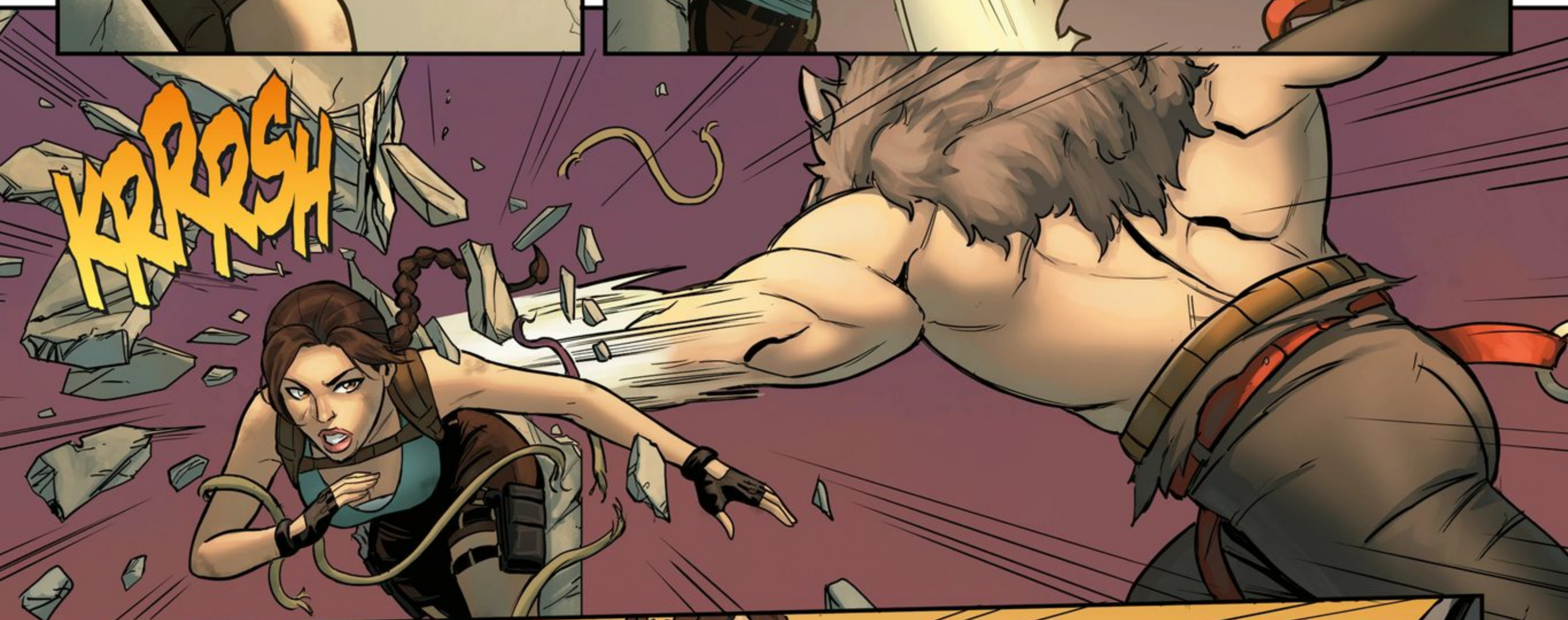
A P--
P-PENITENT...
AND...WILLING...
VESSEL...





RAVENOUS!

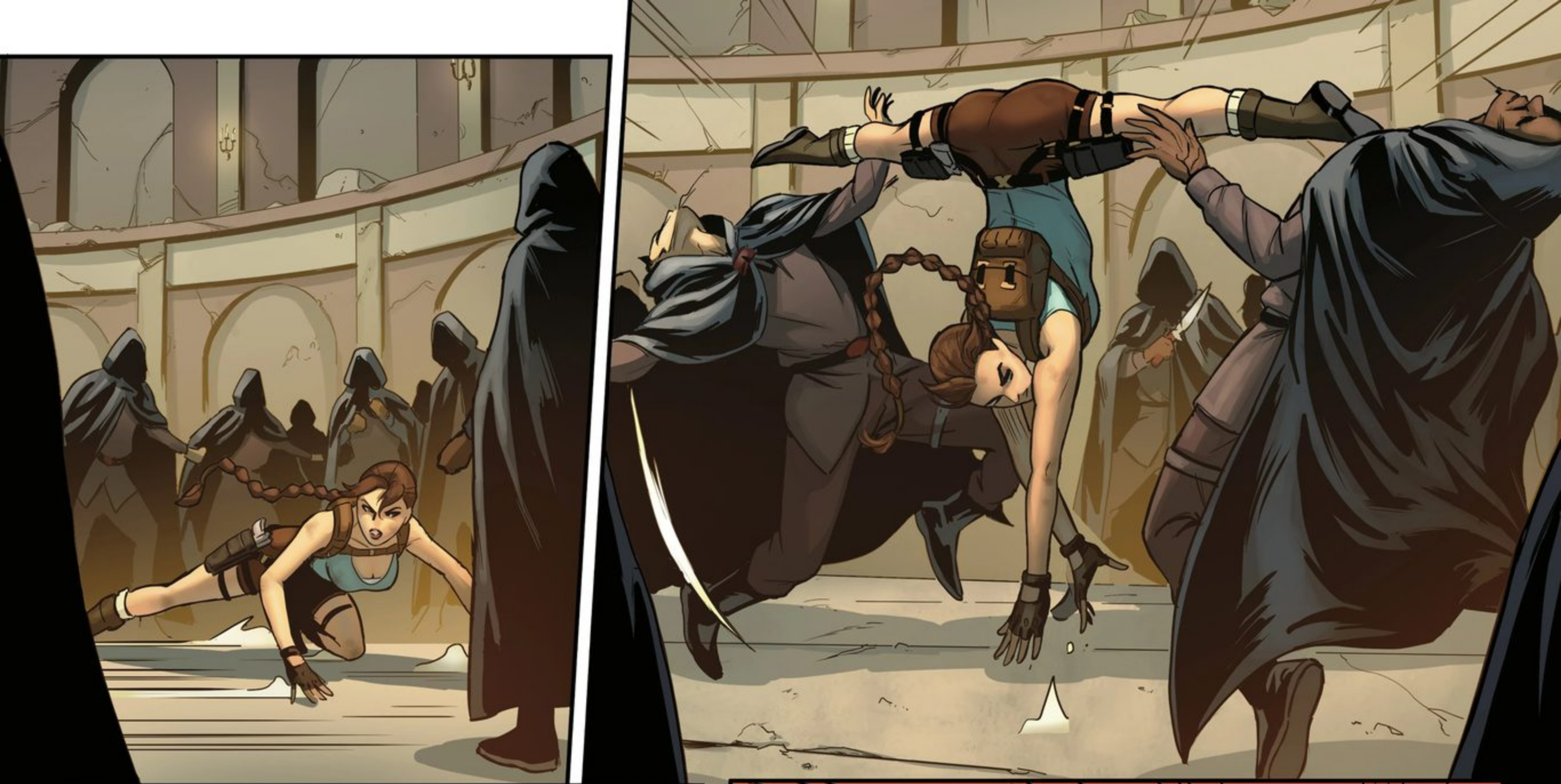


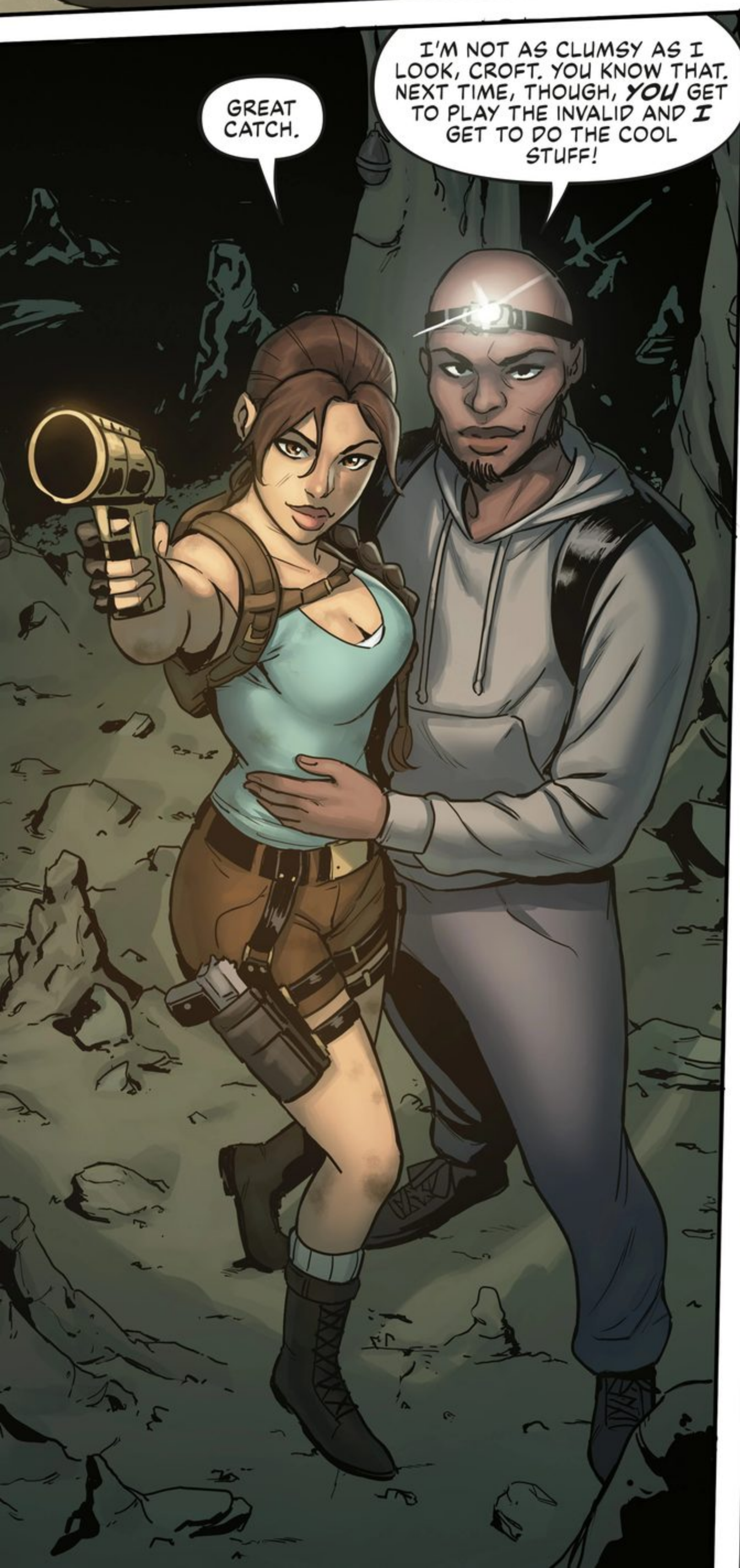


DESTROYING
IT WON'T STOP HIM,
YOU KNOW. IN CASE
YOU MISSED IT,
I LIED.

I DIDN'T MISS
ANYTHING.
INCLUDING
A SINGLE DAY
OF BULGARIAN
LESSONS.



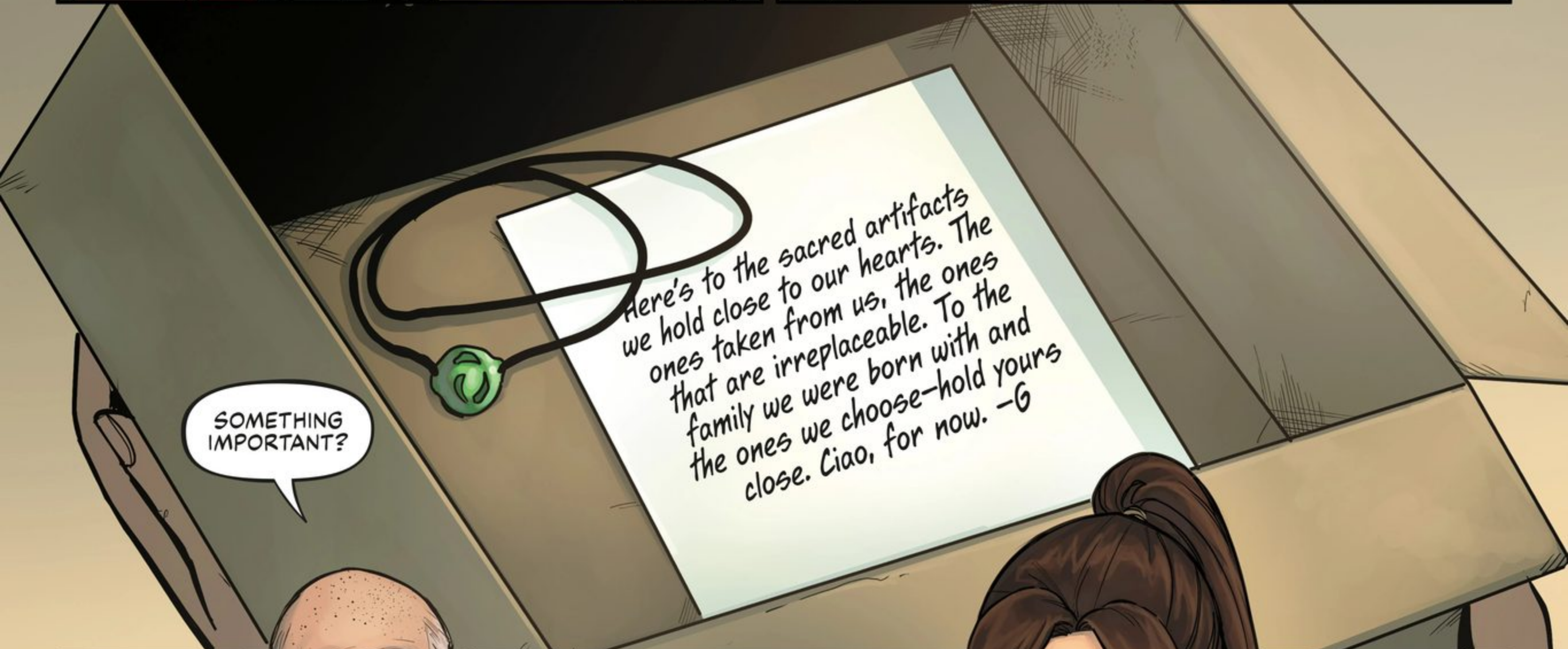


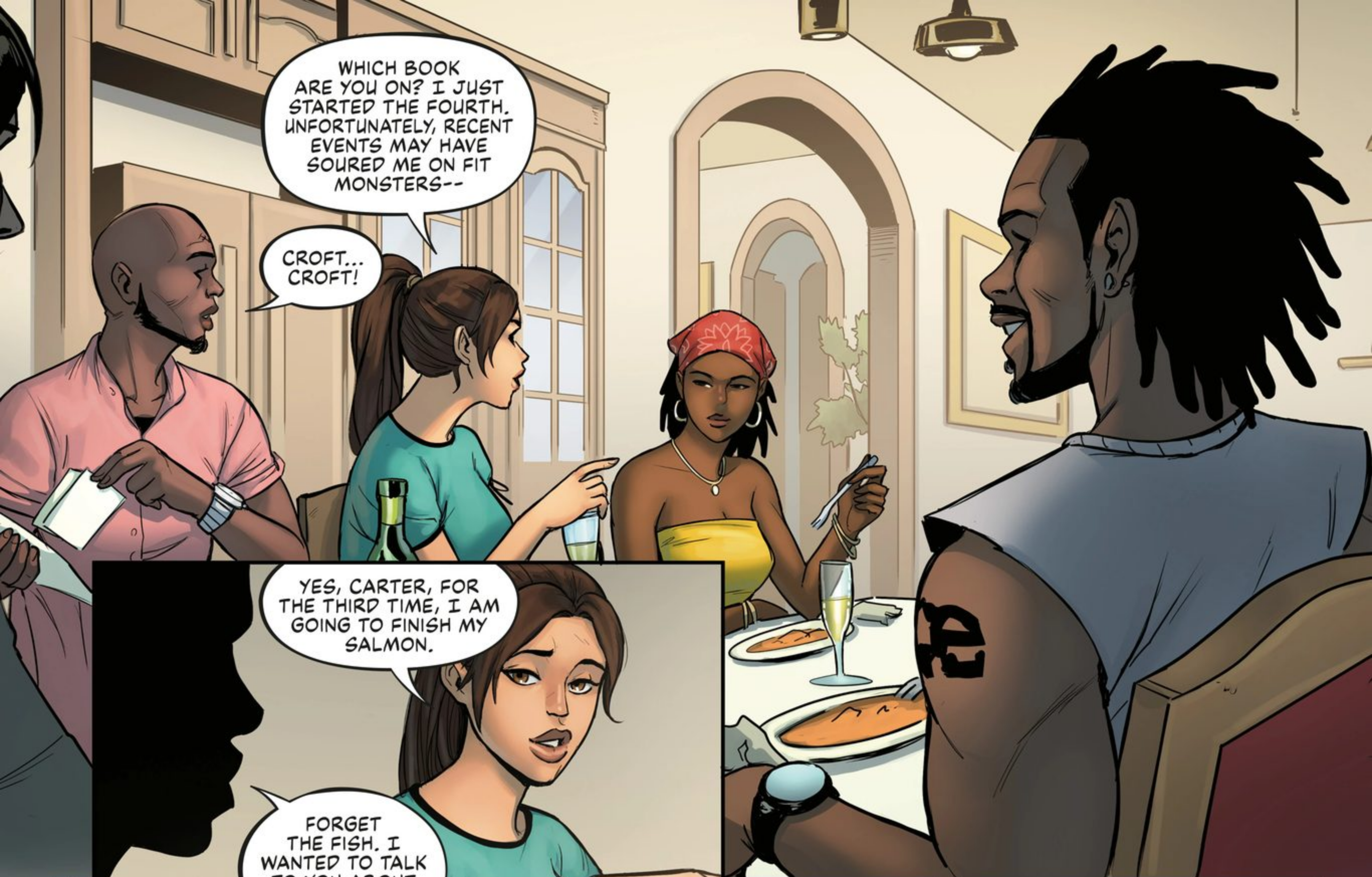














SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

